

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor
Kathleen Clarke
Executive Director
Lowell P. Braxton
Division Director

1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 PO Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-7223 (TDD)

May 2, 2001

Ken May, General Manager Canyon Fuel Company, LLC 397 South 800 West Salina, Utah 84654

Re:

Approval of Water Monitoring Revisions, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, SUFCO Mine,

AM01B,

Dear Mr. May:

The above-referenced amendment is approved effective May 2, 2001. Enclosed are the stamped incorporated pages and plates for insertion into your copy of the Mining and Reclamation Plan, and a copy of our Technical Analysis for your information.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5235 or Mike Suflita at (801) 538-5259.

Sincerely,

Daron R. Haddock Permit Supervisor

sr

Enclosures: (2)

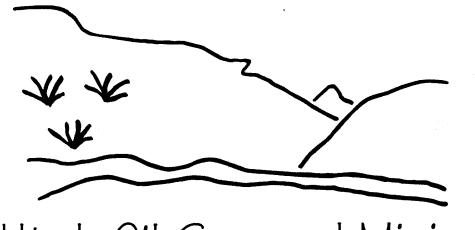
cc:

Joe Wilcox, OSM Richard Manus, BLM Elaine Zieroth, USFS (2) Rob Mrowka, USFS Mark Page, Water Rights w/o Dave Ariotti, DEQ w/o

Derris Jones, DWR w/o Price Field Office

O:\041002.CON\FINAL\APP01B.DOC

State of Utah



Utah Oil Gas and Mining

Coal Regulatory Program

SUFCO Mine
Water Monitoring Revisions
C/041/002-AM01B
Technical Analysis
April 30, 2001

INTRODUCTION

On February 21, 2001 the Division received an amendment to revise the groundwater monitoring plan to delete two wells near the Box Canyon area and also to delete monitoring of wells in the Waste Rock Area of the mine. This Technical Memo is a review of the hydrologic aspects of the amendment. There are no deficiencies.

Page 2 C/041/002-AM01B April 30, 2001

INTRODUCTION

OPERATION PLAN

HYDROLOGIC INFORMATION

Regulatory Reference: 30 CFR Sec. 773.17, 774.13, 784.14, 784.16, 784.29, 817.41, 817.42, 817.43, 817.45, 817.49, 817.56, 817.57; R645-300-140, -300-141, -300-142, -300-143, -300-144, -300-145, -300-146, -300-147, -300-147, -300-148, -301-512, -301-514, -301-521, -301-531, -301-532, -301-533, -301-536, -301-542, -301-720, -301-731, -301-732, -301-733, -301-742, -301-743, -301-750, -301-761, -301-764.

Analysis:

Ground-water monitoring

The amendment proposes to remove two wells, 89-16-1 and 89-16-1A, from the ground-water monitoring plan. The justification for removal is that the "water level measurements are not possible due to collapse or blockage of the casing." The area of the wells has been undermined in a longwall panel and the land has subsided. This is a reasonable justification for removal of the wells from the monitoring plan.

The amendment also proposes to revise the monitoring frequency in the Waste Rock Area. For the past 12 years there has not been any monitoring of wells B-3, B-5, B-6, B-8, and B-9. A review of the water monitoring data in the Division's data base shows this to be true. The reason for not monitoring these wells has been the lack of access due to winter conditions at these sites. Since they've not been monitored, it seems appropriate to eliminate them from the plan and reduce the reporting of no access. This is a sufficient justification for removal of the requirement to monitor these wells during the first quarter of the year only.

Finding:

Information provided in the proposal is adequate to meet the requirements of this section of the regulations.

sm O:\041002.CON\FINAL\TA\TA 01B.DOC